



## Follow the Leader

The Weekly Newsletter for The City of Norfolk's Emerging Leaders

### The Leaders Emerge

This week the City of Norfolk welcomed 225 Emerging Leaders to its workforce for the next 6 week program. For those selected to work in the program, their week started with a comprehensive orientation that

#### NEL Staff Registering Emerging Leaders at Orientation



covered the details of the program and the expectations for the participants. The participants were then sent to attend business communication training at Tidewater Community College from Wednesday, July 6th through Friday,

July 8th. The training curriculum was designed to develop the Emerging Leaders' communication skills, public speaking and business etiquette. The purpose of this training is to provide Norfolk with young adults that can represent the community and workforce in a positive light and become a formidable force in the job market.

This program is not only equipping these young adults with tools to be able to communicate in the workforce, but is also giving them the opportunity to find their own voice, especially for the many who come from large families, and feel empowered to do their part in the community and be heard.

### Leading by Example..

This year's Norfolk Emerging Leaders not only range in age from 16 to 24 years old, they also



**Vice Mayor Anthony Burfoot**  
**Speaking at NEL Training**

range from different walks of life and backgrounds that truly diversify this career development program. These future leaders come from various Norfolk High Schools, home school, Virginia colleges, G.E.D. programs, and some are just trying to make a living and provide for their children. **Vice Mayor Anthony Burfoot and Councilwoman Angelia Williams** visited during training and used their backgrounds and experiences to inspire and encourage these Emerging Leaders. Both City Officials gave positive direction and advice about getting the most out of the NEL experience and bettering their future.

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**Dispelling the Myth:**  
**"Facebook Can't Hurt Your Chances of Getting a Job."**

Out of 2 training classes on Tuesday, almost 1/3 of the respondents thought that the social media website, Facebook, did not have an effect on their job search.

These young adults are not alone, according to a research study done by Dr. Larry Chiagouris, over 75% of college students may be using their Facebook page in a way that will damage their opportunities for a job after graduation.

The TCC training sessions addressed keeping their Facebook pages "employer friendly," as well as the importance of having a professional voicemail greeting and avoiding having inappropriate music playing when employers call.



### This Week's...

#### Intern Spotlight

##### Rodney Robinson, Human Services.

Attending Strayer University for his MBA with a concentration in Finance, Rodney has aspirations to work for the City of Norfolk as a budget analyst or financial manager. Rodney stated, "I would love the opportunity to contribute to the implementation of Norfolk's strategic vision. Overall, I believe Norfolk has the potential to be on the cutting-edge of innovation." Since starting with Human Services, he has learned how vital local government is in meeting the everyday needs of citizens and that civic engagement is important to ensure vitality and success of the community.

##### Rodney



##### Robert



##### Robert Stackhouse, PW Design Division.

Robert is currently attending Hampton University to obtain his Master's in Architecture, a degree that will prove useful interning for the Design Division of Public Works. When asked what he would like to get out of this opportunity he replied, "I would like to get a chance to gain experience in how architecture can be applied to, and used in municipal government. I would then like to use this experience to learn how to better serve the people around myself and my community." Robert appreciates this internship and its civic engagement elements since it allows him to not only better himself, but also better the Norfolk Community.

### 2011 NEL Counselors

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